

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 164734
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS STATE 164734

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MO, KS

SUBJECT: REPLACEMENT OF ONP DIRECTOR GENERAL LAYACHI

REF: A) CASABLANCA 0657, JUNE 20, 1977; B) RABAT 969,
FEBRUARY 28, 1977

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA, COMMERCE HAS LEARNED THAT ONP DIRECTOR GENERAL LAYACHI'S DEPARTURE MAY CAUSE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN MOROCCO'S FISHERIES POLICY. THE NEW DIRECTOR MAY DEEMPHASIZE VESSEL PURCHASES THUS DIRECTLY AFFECTING U.S. SHIPBUILDERS' SALES TO MOROCCO. DEPARTMENT AND COMMERCE REQUEST CLARIFICATION REGARDING A) THE PROBABLE EFFECTS OF THE CHANGE, B) THE REASONS BEHIND THE CHANGE, AND C) POSSIBLE REPLACEMENTS FOR LAYACHI. TIMELY ALERT REPORTING IN THE UNCLASSIFIED

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FUTURE WOULD BE APPRECIATED SO THAT US INDUSTRY MAY BE NOTIFIED OF POSSIBLE POLICY CHANGES BEFORE COMMITMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE.

2. VARIOUS SOURCES REPORT THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA PLANS TO SIGN A FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO AND THAT AN ROK COMPANY, DAERIM FISHERIES, HAS CONCLUDED A

JOINT VENTURE WITH AN UNNAMED MOROCCAN COMPANY. NMFS
WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

3. SPAIN HAS CONCLUDED A FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH MOROCCO
ON FEBRUARY 17, 1977, UNDER WHICH MOROCCO WAS TO RECEIVE
A LOAN OF US 52 MILLION DOLLARS TO BUY 40 SARDINE AND
50 SQUID VESSELS FROM SPANISH SHIPYARDS. THE STATUS OF
THIS LOAN AND A COMMENTARY ON MOROCCO'S ABILITY TO
ABSORB THAT NUMBER OF VESSELS IS DESIRED. REF B
MENTIONS THE LOAN AS BEING US 100 MILLION DOLLARS.

4. NMFS WOULD LIKE TO PUBLISH CHAPTERS 14-17 OF THE
COMPREHENSIVE REPORT RFA PREPARED ON MOROCCAN FISHERIES
(CASABLANCA A-1 OF JANUARY 7, 1977) AND WOULD APPRECIATE
THE UPDATE OF CHAPTERS 14 AND 15 WITH THE LATEST
AVAILABLE INFORMATION, IF POSSIBLE BY THE END OF JULY
OR EARLY AUGUST.

5. RFA'S ALERT REPORTING IN CASABLANCA 722 OF JULY 5,
1977 WAS APPRECIATED. VANCE

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